

## ALMOST KENMOTSU METRIC AS A CONFORMAL RICCI SOLITON

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ABSTRACT. In the present paper, we characterize  $(k, \mu)'$  and generalized  $(k, \mu)'$ -almost Kenmotsu manifolds admitting the conformal Ricci soliton. It is also shown that a  $(k, \mu)'$ -almost Kenmotsu manifold  $M^{2n+1}$  does not admit conformal gradient Ricci soliton  $(g, V, \lambda)$  with  $V$  collinear with the characteristic vector field  $\xi$ . Finally an illustrative example is presented.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Hamilton [9] introduced the concept of Ricci flow in 1982 and proved its existence. The Ricci flow is an evolution equation for metrics on a Riemannian manifold given by

$$\frac{\partial g}{\partial t} = -2S,$$

where  $g$  is the Riemannian metric and  $S$  denotes the Ricci tensor.

A self-similar solution to the Ricci flow [9], [14] is called a Ricci soliton [10] if it moves only by a one parameter family of diffeomorphism and scaling. The Ricci soliton equation is given by

$$\mathcal{L}_V g + 2S = 2\lambda g,$$

where  $\mathcal{L}_X$  is the Lie derivative,  $S$  is the Ricci tensor,  $g$  is the Riemannian metric,  $V$  is a vector field, and  $\lambda$  is a scalar. The Ricci soliton is denoted by  $(g, V, \lambda)$  and said to be shrinking, steady, and expanding according to whether  $\lambda$  is positive, zero, and negative, respectively.

In [8], Fischer developed the concept of conformal Ricci flow which is a variation of the classical Ricci flow equation that modifies the unit volume constraint of that equation to a scalar curvature constraint. The conformal Ricci flow on  $M$  where  $M$  is considered as a smooth, closed, connected, oriented  $n$ -manifold is defined by the equation [8]

$$\frac{\partial g}{\partial t} + 2\left(S + \frac{g}{n}\right) = -pg \quad \text{and} \quad r = -1,$$

where  $p$  is a non-dynamical scalar field which is time dependent,  $r$  is the scalar curvature of the manifold, and  $n$  is the dimension of the manifold.

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In 2015, Basu and Bhattacharyya [1] introduced the notion of the conformal Ricci soliton equation on Kenmotsu manifold  $M^{2n+1}$  as

$$(1.1) \quad \mathcal{L}_V g + 2S = [2\lambda - (p + \frac{2}{2n+1})]g,$$

where  $\lambda$  is constant.

The equation is the generalization of the Ricci soliton equation and it also satisfies the conformal Ricci flow equation. It was later studied by Dutta et al. [7] in Lorentzian  $\alpha$ -Sasakian manifolds and Nagaraja and Venu [12] in  $f$ -Kenmotsu manifolds.

A conformal Ricci soliton is said to be a conformal gradient Ricci soliton if the vector field  $V$  is a gradient of some smooth function on a manifold  $M$ . In this case, the conformal gradient Ricci soliton is given by

$$(1.2) \quad \nabla \nabla f + S = [2\lambda - (p + \frac{2}{2n+1})]g,$$

where  $f$  is the gradient of the potential vector field  $V$ .

The paper is organized as follows.

After preliminaries, in Section 2, we consider a conformal Ricci soliton on  $(k, \mu)'$  and generalized  $(k, \mu)'$ -almost Kenmotsu manifolds. Section 3 deals with a conformal gradient Ricci soliton on  $(k, \mu)'$ -almost Kenmotsu manifolds. Finally, in Section 4, an example is presented which verifies our theorem.

## 2. PRELIMINARIES

A  $(2n + 1)$ -dimensional differentiable manifold  $M$  is said to have a  $(\phi, \xi, \eta)$ -structure or an almost contact structure if it admits a  $(1, 1)$  tensor field  $\phi$ , a characteristic vector field  $\xi$ , and a 1-form  $\eta$  satisfying ([2], [3]),

$$(2.1) \quad \phi^2 = -I + \eta \otimes \xi, \quad \eta(\xi) = 1,$$

where  $I$  denote the identity endomorphism. Here also  $\phi\xi = 0$  and  $\eta \circ \phi = 0$ ; both can be derived from (2.1) easily.

If a manifold  $M$  with a  $(\phi, \xi, \eta)$ -structure admits a Riemannian metric  $g$  such that

$$g(\phi X, \phi Y) = g(X, Y) - \eta(X)\eta(Y)$$

for any vector fields  $X, Y$  on  $M$ , then  $M$  is said to be an almost contact metric manifold. The fundamental 2-form  $\Phi$  on an almost contact metric manifold is defined by  $\Phi(X, Y) = g(X, \phi Y)$  for any  $X, Y$  on  $M$ . The condition for an almost contact metric manifold being normal is equivalent to the vanishing of the  $(1, 2)$ -type torsion tensor  $N_\phi$ , defined by  $N_\phi = [\phi, \phi] + 2d\eta \otimes \xi$ , where  $[\phi, \phi]$  is the Nijenhuis tensor of  $\phi$  [2]. Recently in [4], [5], [6], [13], almost contact metric manifolds such that  $\eta$  is closed and  $d\Phi = 2\eta \wedge \Phi$  are studied and they are called almost Kenmotsu manifolds. Obviously, a normal almost Kenmotsu manifold is a Kenmotsu manifold. Also Kenmotsu manifolds can be characterized by  $(\nabla_X \phi)Y = g(\phi X, Y)\xi - \eta(Y)\phi X$  for any vector fields  $X, Y$ . It is well known [11] that a Kenmotsu manifold  $M^{2n+1}$  is locally a warped product  $I \times_f N^{2n}$  where  $N^{2n}$  is a Kähler manifold,  $I$  is an open interval with coordinate  $t$ , and the warping function  $f$ , defined by  $f = ce^t$  for some positive constant  $c$ . Let us denote the distribution orthogonal to  $\xi$  by  $\mathcal{D}$  and defined by  $\mathcal{D} = \text{Ker}(\eta) = \text{Im}(\phi)$ . In an almost Kenmotsu manifold, since  $\eta$  is closed,  $\mathcal{D}$  is an integrable distribution.

Let  $M^{2n+1}$  be an almost Kenmotsu manifold. We denote by  $h = \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{L}_\xi\phi$  and  $l = R(\cdot, \xi)\xi$  on  $M^{2n+1}$ . The tensor fields  $l$  and  $h$  are symmetric operators and satisfy the following relations [13]:

$$(2.2) \quad h\xi = 0, \quad l\xi = 0, \quad \text{tr}(h) = 0, \quad \text{tr}(h\phi) = 0, \quad h\phi + \phi h = 0,$$

$$(2.3) \quad \nabla_X \xi = X - \eta(X)\xi - \phi hX (\Rightarrow \nabla_\xi \xi = 0),$$

$$(2.4) \quad \phi l\phi - l = 2(h^2 - \phi^2),$$

$$(2.5) \quad R(X, Y)\xi = \eta(X)(Y - \phi hY) - \eta(Y)(X - \phi hX) + (\nabla_Y \phi h)X - (\nabla_X \phi h)Y$$

for any vector fields  $X, Y$ . The  $(1, 1)$ -type symmetric tensor field  $h' = h \circ \phi$  is anti-commuting with  $\phi$  and  $h'\xi = 0$ . Also it is clear that ([4], [16])

$$(2.6) \quad h = 0 \Leftrightarrow h' = 0, \quad h'^2 = (k+1)\phi^2 (\Leftrightarrow h^2 = (k+1)\phi^2).$$

In [4], Dileo and Pastore introduced the notion of  $(k, \mu)'$ -nullity distribution, on an almost Kenmotsu manifold  $(M^{2n+1}, \phi, \xi, \eta, g)$ , which is defined for any  $p \in M$  and  $k, \mu \in \mathbb{R}$  as follows:

$$(2.7) \quad N_p(k, \mu)' = \{Z \in T_p(M) : R(X, Y)Z = k[g(Y, Z)X - g(X, Z)Y] + \mu[g(Y, Z)h'X - g(X, Z)h'Y]\}.$$

The above notion is called generalized nullity distributions when one allows  $k, \mu$  to be smooth functions.

Let  $X \in \mathcal{D}$  be the eigenvector of  $h'$  corresponding to the eigenvalue  $\alpha$ . Then from (2.5) it is clear that  $\alpha^2 = -(k+1)$ , a constant. Therefore  $k \leq -1$  and  $\alpha = \pm\sqrt{-k-1}$ . We denote by  $[\alpha]'$  and  $[-\alpha]'$  the corresponding eigenspaces related to the non-zero eigenvalue  $\alpha$  and  $-\alpha$  of  $h'$ , respectively. In [4], it is proved that in a  $(k, \mu)'$ -almost Kenmotsu manifold  $M^{2n+1}$  with  $h' \neq 0$ ,  $k < -1$ ,  $\mu = -2$ , and  $\text{Spec}(h') = \{0, \alpha, -\alpha\}$  with 0 as a simple eigenvalue and  $\alpha = \sqrt{-k-1}$ . Also

$$(2.8) \quad (\nabla_X h')Y = -g(h'X + h'^2X, Y)\xi - \eta(Y)(h'X + h'^2X).$$

In [15], Wang and Liu proved that for a  $(k, \mu)'$ -almost Kenmotsu manifold  $M^{2n+1}$  with  $h' \neq 0$ , the Ricci operator  $Q$  of  $M^{2n+1}$  is given by

$$(2.9) \quad Q = -2nid + 2n(k+1)\eta \otimes \xi - 2nh'.$$

Moreover, the scalar curvature of  $M^{2n+1}$  is  $2n(k-2n)$ . From (2.7), we have

$$(2.10) \quad R(X, Y)\xi = k[\eta(Y)X - \eta(X)Y] + \mu[\eta(Y)h'X - \eta(X)h'Y],$$

where  $k, \mu \in \mathbb{R}$ . Also we get from (2.10)

$$(2.11) \quad R(\xi, X)Y = k[g(X, Y)\xi - \eta(Y)X] + \mu[g(h'X, Y)\xi - \eta(Y)h'X].$$

Contracting  $X$  in (2.10), we have

$$(2.12) \quad S(Y, \xi) = 2nk\eta(Y).$$

Using (2.3), we have

$$(2.13) \quad (\nabla_X \eta)Y = g(X, Y) - \eta(X)\eta(Y) + g(h'X, Y).$$

For further details on almost Kenmotsu manifolds, we refer the reader to go through the references ([15]-[18]).

## 3. CONFORMAL RICCI SOLITON

In this section, we study the conformal Ricci soliton on  $(k, \mu)'$  and generalized  $(k, \mu)'$ -almost Kenmotsu manifolds. Before proving our main theorems, we first prove the following lemmas.

**Lemma 3.1.** *In a  $(k, \mu)'$ -almost Kenmotsu manifold  $M^{2n+1}$  with  $h' \neq 0$ , the following relation holds:*

$$(\nabla_Z S)(X, Y) - (\nabla_X S)(Y, Z) - (\nabla_Y S)(X, Z) = -4n(k+2)g(h'X, Y)\eta(Z).$$

*Proof.* From (2.9), we have

$$(3.1) \quad S(X, Y) = -2ng(X, Y) + 2n(k+1)\eta(X)\eta(Y) - 2ng(h'X, Y)$$

for any vector fields  $X, Y$  on  $M^{2n+1}$ .

Taking a covariant derivative of the foregoing equation along any vector field  $Z$  we have

$$(3.2) \quad \begin{aligned} \nabla_Z S(X, Y) &= -2n\nabla_Z g(X, Y) + 2n(k+1)(\nabla_Z \eta(X))\eta(Y) \\ &\quad + 2n(k+1)\eta(X)(\nabla_Z \eta(Y)) - 2n\nabla_Z g(h'X, Y). \end{aligned}$$

Now, we have

$$(\nabla_Z S)(X, Y) = \nabla_Z S(X, Y) - S(\nabla_Z X, Y) - S(X, \nabla_Z Y).$$

Using (3.1) and (3.2) in the foregoing equation, we obtain

$$(3.3) \quad \begin{aligned} (\nabla_Z S)(X, Y) &= 2n(k+1)(\nabla_Z \eta(X))\eta(Y) + 2n(k+1)\eta(X)(\nabla_Z \eta(Y)) \\ &\quad - 2ng((\nabla_Z h')X, Y). \end{aligned}$$

Now, using (2.8) and (2.13) in (3.3) we obtain

$$(3.4) \quad \begin{aligned} (\nabla_Z S)(X, Y) &= 2n(k+1)\eta(Y)(g(X, Z) - \eta(X)\eta(Z) + g(h'X, Z)) \\ &\quad + 2n(k+1)\eta(X)(g(Y, Z) - \eta(Y)\eta(Z) + g(h'Y, Z)) \\ &\quad + 2ng(h'Z + h'^2Z, X)\eta(Y) + 2n\eta(X)g(h'Z + h'^2Z, Y). \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, we obtain the following:

$$(3.5) \quad \begin{aligned} (\nabla_X S)(Y, Z) &= 2n(k+1)\eta(Z)(g(X, Y) - \eta(X)\eta(Y) + g(h'X, Y)) \\ &\quad + 2n(k+1)\eta(Y)(g(X, Z) - \eta(X)\eta(Z) + g(h'X, Z)) \\ &\quad + 2ng(h'X + h'^2X, Y)\eta(Z) + 2n\eta(Y)g(h'X + h'^2X, Z) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$(3.6) \quad \begin{aligned} (\nabla_Y S)(X, Z) &= 2n(k+1)\eta(Z)(g(X, Y) - \eta(X)\eta(Y) + g(h'X, Y)) \\ &\quad + 2n(k+1)\eta(X)(g(Y, Z) - \eta(Y)\eta(Z) + g(h'Y, Z)) \\ &\quad + 2ng(h'Y + h'^2Y, X)\eta(Z) + 2n\eta(X)g(h'Y + h'^2Y, Z). \end{aligned}$$

Using (3.4)-(3.6), we infer that

$$(3.7) \quad \begin{aligned} &(\nabla_Z S)(X, Y) - (\nabla_X S)(Y, Z) - (\nabla_Y S)(X, Z) \\ &= -4n(k+1)\eta(Z)(g(X, Y) - \eta(X)\eta(Y) + g(h'X, Y)) \\ &\quad - 4ng(h'X + h'^2X, Y)\eta(Z), \end{aligned}$$

where the symmetry of  $h'$  is used. Now, using (2.6) and then (2.1) in (3.7) we complete the proof.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.2.** *In a  $(k, \mu)$ '-almost Kenmotsu manifold  $M^{2n+1}$ ,  $(\mathcal{L}_X h')Y = 0$  for any  $X, Y \in [\alpha]'$  or  $X, Y \in [-\alpha]'$ , where  $\text{Spec}(h') = \{0, \alpha, -\alpha\}$ .*

*Proof.* We consider a local orthonormal basis  $\{\xi, e_i, \phi e_i\}$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$  with  $e_i \in [\alpha]'$  for  $M^{2n+1}$  and for any  $X, Y \in [\alpha]'$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla_X Y &= \sum_i g(\nabla_X Y, e_i)e_i + g(\nabla_X Y, \xi)\xi \\ &= \sum_i g(\nabla_X Y, e_i)e_i - (1 + \alpha)g(X, Y)\xi.\end{aligned}$$

For details of the above equation, see Proposition 4.1 of [4]. Now,

$$\begin{aligned}(\mathcal{L}_X h')Y &= \mathcal{L}_X h'Y - h'(\mathcal{L}_X Y) \\ &= \alpha \mathcal{L}_X Y - h'(\mathcal{L}_X Y) \\ &= \alpha(\nabla_X Y - \nabla_Y X) - h'(\nabla_X Y - \nabla_Y X) \\ &= \alpha(\nabla_X Y - \sum_i g(\nabla_X Y, e_i)e_i) - \alpha(\nabla_Y X - \sum_i g(\nabla_Y X, e_i)e_i) \\ &= -\alpha(1 + \alpha)g(X, Y)\xi + \alpha(1 + \alpha)g(X, Y)\xi \\ &= 0.\end{aligned}$$

Similarly, one can prove the same when  $X, Y \in [-\alpha]'$ . Hence, the proof is complete.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.3.** *A  $(k, \mu)$ '-almost Kenmotsu manifold  $M^{2n+1}$  with  $h' \neq 0$  admitting conformal Ricci soliton  $(g, V, \lambda)$  is locally isometric to  $\mathbb{H}^{n+1}(-4) \times \mathbb{R}^n$  or the conformal Ricci soliton (i) expanding, (ii) steady, or (iii) shrinking according to whether the non-dynamical scalar field  $p$  is*

- (i)  $p < -4nk - \frac{2}{2n+1}$ ,
- (ii)  $p = -4nk - \frac{2}{2n+1}$ ,
- (iii)  $p > \frac{8n^2 + 4n - 2}{2n+1}$ .

*Proof.* From (1.1) we have

$$(3.8) \quad (\mathcal{L}_V g)(X, Y) + 2S(X, Y) = [2\lambda - (p + \frac{2}{2n+1})]g(X, Y).$$

Differentiating the above equation covariantly along any vector field  $Z$  we get

$$(3.9) \quad (\nabla_Z \mathcal{L}_V g)(X, Y) = -2(\nabla_Z S)(X, Y).$$

It is well known that ([19, p. 23])

$$(\mathcal{L}_V \nabla_X g - \mathcal{L}_X \nabla_V g - \nabla_{[V, X]}g)(Y, Z) = -g((\mathcal{L}_V \nabla)(X, Y), Z) - g((\mathcal{L}_V \nabla)(X, Z), Y).$$

Since  $g$  is parallel with respect to the Levi-Civita connection  $\nabla$ , then the above relation becomes

$$(3.10) \quad (\nabla_X \mathcal{L}_V g)(Y, Z) = g((\mathcal{L}_V \nabla)(X, Y), Z) + g((\mathcal{L}_V \nabla)(X, Z), Y).$$

Since  $\mathcal{L}_V \nabla$  is symmetric, then it follows from (3.10) that

$$(3.11) \quad \begin{aligned}g((\mathcal{L}_V \nabla)(X, Y), Z) &= \frac{1}{2}(\nabla_X \mathcal{L}_V g)(Y, Z) + \frac{1}{2}(\nabla_Y \mathcal{L}_V g)(X, Z) \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{2}(\nabla_Z \mathcal{L}_V g)(X, Y).\end{aligned}$$

Using (3.9) in (3.11) we have

$$(3.12) \quad g((\mathcal{L}_V \nabla)(X, Y), Z) = (\nabla_Z S)(X, Y) - (\nabla_X S)(Y, Z) - (\nabla_Y S)(X, Z).$$

Now using Lemma 3.1 in (3.12) we have

$$g((\mathcal{L}_V \nabla)(X, Y), Z) = -4n(k+2)g(h'X, Y)\eta(Z),$$

which implies

$$(3.13) \quad (\mathcal{L}_V \nabla)(X, Y) = -4n(k+2)g(h'X, Y)\xi.$$

Substituting  $Y = \xi$  in (3.13) we get  $(\mathcal{L}_V \nabla)(X, \xi) = 0$ . From this we obtain  $\nabla_Y(\mathcal{L}_V \nabla)(X, \xi) = 0$ . This gives

$$(3.14) \quad (\nabla_Y \mathcal{L}_V \nabla)(X, \xi) + (\mathcal{L}_V \nabla)(\nabla_Y X, \xi) + (\mathcal{L}_V \nabla)(X, \nabla_Y \xi) = 0.$$

Using  $(\mathcal{L}_V \nabla)(X, \xi) = 0$ , (3.12), and (2.3) in (3.14) we infer that

$$(3.15) \quad (\nabla_Y \mathcal{L}_V \nabla)(X, \xi) = 4n(k+2)(g(h'X, Y) + g(h'^2 X, Y))\xi.$$

Using the foregoing equation in the following formula ([19, p. 23])

$$(\mathcal{L}_V R)(X, Y)Z = (\nabla_X \mathcal{L}_V \nabla)(Y, Z) - (\nabla_Y \mathcal{L}_V \nabla)(X, Z),$$

we obtain

$$(3.16) \quad (\mathcal{L}_V R)(X, \xi)\xi = (\nabla_X \mathcal{L}_V \nabla)(\xi, \xi) - (\nabla_\xi \mathcal{L}_V \nabla)(X, \xi) = 0.$$

Now, substituting  $Y = \xi$  in (3.8) and using (2.12) we have

$$(3.17) \quad (\mathcal{L}_V g)(X, \xi) = [2\lambda - (p + \frac{2}{2n+1}) - 4nk]\eta(X).$$

Lie-differentiating  $g(X, \xi) = \eta(X)$  along  $V$  and using (3.17) we obtain

$$(3.18) \quad (\mathcal{L}_V \eta)X - g(X, \mathcal{L}_V \xi) - [2\lambda - (p + \frac{2}{2n+1}) - 4nk]\eta(X) = 0.$$

From (3.18), after putting  $X = \xi$  we can easily obtain that

$$(3.19) \quad \eta(\mathcal{L}_V \xi) = [\lambda - (\frac{p}{2} + \frac{1}{2n+1}) - 2nk].$$

From (2.10), we have

$$(3.20) \quad R(X, \xi)\xi = k(X - \eta(X)\xi) - 2h'X.$$

Now, using (3.18)-(3.20) and (2.10)-(2.11) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathcal{L}_V R)(X, \xi)\xi &= \mathcal{L}_V R(X, \xi)\xi - R(\mathcal{L}_V X, \xi)\xi - R(X, \mathcal{L}_V \xi)\xi - R(X, \xi)\mathcal{L}_V \xi \\ &= k[2\lambda - (p + \frac{2}{2n+1}) - 4nk](X - \eta(X)\xi) - 2(\mathcal{L}_V h')X \\ &\quad - 2[2\lambda - (p + \frac{2}{2n+1}) - 4nk]h'X - 2n\eta(X)h'(\mathcal{L}_V \xi) \\ (3.21) \quad &- 2g(h'X, \mathcal{L}_V \xi)\xi. \end{aligned}$$

Equating (3.16) and (3.21) and then taking an inner product with  $Y$  yields

$$\begin{aligned} &k[2\lambda - (p + \frac{2}{2n+1}) - 4nk](g(X, Y) - \eta(X)\eta(Y)) \\ &- 2g((\mathcal{L}_V h')X, Y) - 2[2\lambda - (p + \frac{2}{2n+1}) - 4nk]g(h'X, Y) \\ &- 2n\eta(X)g(h'(\mathcal{L}_V \xi), Y) - 2g(h'X, \mathcal{L}_V \xi)\eta(Y) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Replacing  $X$  by  $\phi X$  in the above equation, we infer that

$$(3.22) \quad \begin{aligned} & k[2\lambda - (p + \frac{2}{2n+1}) - 4nk]g(\phi X, Y) - 2g((\mathcal{L}_V h')\phi X, Y) \\ & - 2[2\lambda - (p + \frac{2}{2n+1}) - 4nk]g(h'\phi X, Y) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Letting  $X \in [-\alpha]'$  and  $V \in [\alpha]'$ , then  $\phi X \in [\alpha]'$ . Then from (3.22), we have

$$(3.23) \quad (k - 2\alpha)[2\lambda - (p + \frac{2}{2n+1}) - 4nk]g(\phi X, Y) - 2g((\mathcal{L}_V h')\phi X, Y) = 0.$$

Since,  $V, \phi X \in [\alpha]'$ , using Lemma 3.2 we have  $(\mathcal{L}_V h')\phi X = 0$ . Therefore, equation (3.23) reduces to

$$(k - 2\alpha)[2\lambda - (p + \frac{2}{2n+1}) - 4nk]g(\phi X, Y) = 0,$$

which implies either  $k = 2\alpha$  or  $2\lambda = (p + \frac{2}{2n+1}) + 4nk$ .

*Case 1.* If  $k = 2\alpha$ , then from  $\alpha^2 = -(k + 1)$  we get  $\alpha = -1$  and hence  $k = -2$ . Then from Proposition 4.2 of [4], we have

$$R(X_\alpha, Y_\alpha)Z_\alpha = 0$$

and

$$R(X_{-\alpha}, Y_{-\alpha})Z_{-\alpha} = -4[g(Y_{-\alpha}, Z_{-\alpha})X_{-\alpha} - g(X_{-\alpha}, Z_{-\alpha})Y_{-\alpha}]$$

for any  $X_\alpha, Y_\alpha, Z_\alpha \in [\alpha]'$  and  $X_{-\alpha}, Y_{-\alpha}, Z_{-\alpha} \in [-\alpha]'$ . Also noticing  $\mu = -2$  it follows from Proposition 4.3 of [4] that  $K(X, \xi) = -4$  for any  $X \in [-\alpha]'$  and  $K(X, \xi) = 0$  for any  $X \in [\alpha]'$ . Again from Proposition 4.3 of [4] we see that  $K(X, Y) = -4$  for any  $X, Y \in [-\alpha]'$  and  $K(X, Y) = 0$  for any  $X, Y \in [\alpha]'$ . As is shown in [4] the distribution  $[\xi] \oplus [\alpha]'$  is integrable with totally geodesic leaves and the distribution  $[-\alpha]'$  is integrable with totally umbilical leaves by  $H = -(1 - \alpha)\xi$ , where  $H$  is the mean curvature tensor field for the leaves of  $[-\alpha]'$  immersed in  $M^{2n+1}$ . Here  $\alpha = -1$ ; then the two orthogonal distributions  $[\xi] \oplus [\alpha]'$  and  $[-\alpha]'$  are both integrable with totally geodesic leaves immersed in  $M^{2n+1}$ . Then we can say that  $M^{2n+1}$  is locally isometric to  $\mathbb{H}^{n+1}(-4) \times \mathbb{R}^n$ .

*Case 2.* Let  $2\lambda = (p + \frac{2}{2n+1}) + 4nk$ . Now, the conformal Ricci soliton is expanding, steady, or shrinking according to whether  $\lambda < 0$ ,  $\lambda = 0$ , or  $\lambda > 0$ , respectively. Therefore, the conformal Ricci soliton is expanding when  $p < -4nk - \frac{2}{2n+1}$ , steady when  $p = -4nk - \frac{2}{2n+1}$ , and shrinking when  $p > \frac{8n^2+4n-2}{2n+1}$ , where the fact  $k \leq -1$  is used in the case of shrinking. This completes the proof.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.4.** *If  $(g, \xi, \lambda)$  is a conformal Ricci soliton in a generalized  $(k, \mu)'$ -almost Kenmotsu manifold  $M^{2n+1}$ , then  $M^{2n+1}$  is  $\eta$ -Einstein and  $\lambda = \frac{p}{2} + \frac{1}{2n+1} + 2nk$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $(g, \xi, \lambda)$  is a conformal Ricci soliton in  $M^{2n+1}$ , we have from (1.1)

$$(3.24) \quad (\mathcal{L}_\xi g)(X, Y) + 2S(X, Y) = [2\lambda - (p + \frac{2}{2n+1})]g(X, Y).$$

Now, using (2.3) we obtain

$$(3.25) \quad \begin{aligned} (\mathcal{L}_\xi g)(X, Y) &= g(\nabla_X \xi, Y) + g(\nabla_Y \xi, X) \\ &= 2g(X, Y) - 2\eta(X)\eta(Y) - 2g(\phi h X, Y). \end{aligned}$$

Substituting (3.25) in (3.24) we get

$$(3.26) \quad \begin{aligned} & 2g(X, Y) - 2\eta(X)\eta(Y) - 2g(\phi hX, Y) + 2S(X, Y) \\ &= [2\lambda - (p + \frac{2}{2n+1})]g(X, Y). \end{aligned}$$

From (2.9), we get

$$(3.27) \quad g(\phi hX, Y) = \frac{1}{2n}S(X, Y) + g(X, Y) - (k+1)\eta(X)\eta(Y).$$

Now, substituting (3.27) in (3.26) we get

$$S(X, Y) = \frac{n[2\lambda - (p + \frac{2}{2n+1})]}{2n-1}g(X, Y) - \frac{2nk}{2n-1}\eta(X)\eta(Y),$$

which shows that the manifold is  $\eta$ -Einstein.

Putting  $X = Y = \xi$  in the foregoing equation, we obtain

$$2nk = \frac{n[2\lambda - (p + \frac{2}{2n+1})]}{2n-1} - \frac{2nk}{2n-1}.$$

From above, it follows that  $\lambda = \frac{p}{2} + \frac{1}{2n+1} + 2nk$ . □

#### 4. CONFORMAL GRADIENT RICCI SOLITON

In this section we consider a conformal gradient Ricci soliton in the framework of  $(k, \mu)$ '-almost Kenmotsu manifolds. If  $V$  is any vector field collinear with  $\xi$ , then there is a smooth function  $b$  on  $M$  such that  $V = b\xi$ . In this case,  $h'V = 0$ . Here we prove the following theorem.

**Theorem 4.1.** *A  $(k, \mu)$ '-almost Kenmotsu manifold  $M^{2n+1}$  does not admit conformal gradient Ricci soliton  $(g, V, \lambda)$  with  $V$  collinear with the characteristic vector field  $\xi$ .*

The proof of the above theorem relies on the following lemma.

**Lemma 4.2.** *In a  $(k, \mu)$ '-almost Kenmotsu manifold  $M^{2n+1}$  admitting conformal gradient Ricci soliton  $(g, V, \lambda)$ , the following relation holds:*

$$(4.1) \quad R(X, Y)Df = 2n(k+2)(\eta(X)h'Y - \eta(Y)h'X),$$

where  $f : M^{2n+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a smooth function such that  $V = Df$ ,  $D$  is the gradient operator.

*Proof.* From (1.2) we can write

$$(4.2) \quad \nabla_X Df = [\lambda - (\frac{p}{2} + \frac{1}{2n+1})]X - QX.$$

Taking the covariant derivative of the above equation along  $Y$  we get

$$(4.3) \quad \nabla_Y \nabla_X Df = [\lambda - (\frac{p}{2} + \frac{1}{2n+1})]\nabla_Y X - \nabla_Y QX.$$

Interchanging  $X$  and  $Y$  in (4.3) we get

$$(4.4) \quad \nabla_X \nabla_Y Df = [\lambda - (\frac{p}{2} + \frac{1}{2n+1})]\nabla_X Y - \nabla_X QY.$$

Again, from (4.2) we obtain

$$(4.5) \quad \nabla_{[X, Y]} Df = [\lambda - (\frac{p}{2} + \frac{1}{2n+1})](\nabla_X Y - \nabla_Y X) - Q(\nabla_X Y - \nabla_Y X).$$

Using (4.3)-(4.5) in the following:

$$R(X, Y)Df = \nabla_X \nabla_Y Df - \nabla_Y \nabla_X Df - \nabla_{[X, Y]} Df$$

we obtain

$$(4.6) \quad R(X, Y)Df = (\nabla_Y Q)X - (\nabla_X Q)Y.$$

Now, using (2.8), (2.9), and (2.13) we obtain

$$(4.7) \quad \begin{aligned} (\nabla_Y Q)X &= \nabla_Y QX - Q(\nabla_Y X) \\ &= 2n(k+1)(g(X, Y) - \eta(X)\eta(Y) + g(h'X, Y))\xi \\ &\quad + 2n(k+1)\eta(X)(Y - \eta(Y)\xi - \phi hY) + 2ng(h'Y + h'^2Y, X)\xi \\ &\quad + 2n\eta(X)(h'Y + h'^2Y). \end{aligned}$$

Interchanging  $X$  and  $Y$  in the above equation we obtain  $(\nabla_X Q)Y$ . Now, substituting  $(\nabla_Y Q)X$  and  $(\nabla_X Q)Y$  in (4.6) and using (2.6) we complete the proof.  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 4.1.* Putting  $X = \xi$  in (4.1) we have

$$R(\xi, Y)Df = 2n(k+2)h'Y,$$

which implies

$$(4.8) \quad g(R(\xi, Y)Df, X) = 2n(k+2)g(h'Y, X).$$

Again, using (2.11) we have

$$(4.9) \quad \begin{aligned} g(R(\xi, Y)Df, X) &= -g(R(\xi, Y)X, Df) \\ &= -kg(X, Y)(\xi f) + k\eta(X)(Yf) \\ &\quad + 2g(h'X, Y)(\xi f) - 2\eta(X)((h'Y)f). \end{aligned}$$

From (4.8) and (4.9) we get

$$\begin{aligned} &-kg(X, Y)(\xi f) + k\eta(X)(Yf) + 2g(h'X, Y)(\xi f) - 2\eta(X)((h'Y)f) \\ &= 2n(k+2)g(h'Y, X). \end{aligned}$$

Antisymmetrizing the foregoing equation we obtain

$$(4.10) \quad k\eta(X)(Yf) - k\eta(Y)(Xf) - 2\eta(X)((h'Y)f) + 2\eta(Y)((h'X)f) = 0.$$

Now,  $(h'X)f = g(h'X, Df) = g(X, h'(Df)) = 0$  for any vector field  $X$  as  $h'V = h'(Df) = 0$  by hypothesis. Hence, from (4.10) we get

$$\eta(X)(Yf) - \eta(Y)(Xf) = 0,$$

as  $k \leq -1$ . Putting  $X = \xi$  in the above equation we obtain

$$(4.11) \quad Df = (\xi f)\xi.$$

Differentiating (4.11) covariantly along  $X$ , we obtain

$$(4.12) \quad \nabla_X Df = (X(\xi f))\xi + (\xi f)(X - \eta(X)\xi - \phi hX).$$

Equating (4.2) and (4.12) we obtain

$$(4.13) \quad QX = \left[ \lambda - \left( \frac{p}{2} + \frac{1}{2n+1} \right) \right] (\xi f)X + ((\xi f)\eta(X) - X(\xi f))\xi + (\xi f)\phi hX.$$

Comparing (2.9) and (4.13) we have the following:

$$(4.14) \quad \left[ \lambda - \left( \frac{p}{2} + \frac{1}{2n+1} \right) \right] (\xi f) = -2n,$$

$$(4.15) \quad (\xi f)\eta(X) - X(\xi f) = 2n(k+1)\eta(X),$$

$$(4.16) \quad (\xi f) = 2.$$

Using (4.16) in (4.14) we get  $2\lambda - (p + \frac{2}{2n+1}) = -4n - 4$  which implies  $\lambda = \frac{p}{2} + \frac{1}{2n+1} - 2n - 2$ . Again using (4.16) in (4.15) we get  $2\eta(X) = 2n(k+1)\eta(X)$  for any vector field  $X$  which implies  $k = -1 + \frac{1}{n} > -1$  which is a contradiction as  $k \leq -1$ . Hence, a  $(k, \mu)$ '-almost Kenmotsu manifold  $M^{2n+1}$  does not admit conformal gradient Ricci soliton  $(g, V, \lambda)$  such that the potential vector field  $V$  is collinear with the characteristic vector field  $\xi$ .

## 5. EXAMPLE OF A 5-DIMENSIONAL ALMOST KENMOTSU MANIFOLD

We consider the 5-dimensional manifold  $M = \{(x, y, z, u, v) \in \mathbb{R}^5\}$ , where  $(x, y, z, u, v)$  are the standard coordinates in  $\mathbb{R}^5$ . Let  $\xi, e_2, e_3, e_4, e_5$  be five vector fields in  $\mathbb{R}^5$  which satisfies [4]

$$[\xi, e_2] = -2e_2, [\xi, e_3] = -2e_3, [\xi, e_4] = 0, [\xi, e_5] = 0,$$

$[e_i, e_j] = 0$ , where  $i, j = 2, 3, 4, 5$ .

Let  $g$  be the Riemannian metric defined by

$$g(\xi, \xi) = g(e_2, e_2) = g(e_3, e_3) = g(e_4, e_4) = g(e_5, e_5) = 1$$

and  $g(\xi, e_i) = g(e_i, e_j) = 0$  for  $i \neq j; i, j = 2, 3, 4, 5$ .

Let  $\eta$  be the 1-form defined by  $\eta(Z) = g(Z, \xi)$ , for any  $Z \in T(M)$ .

Let  $\phi$  be the  $(1, 1)$ -tensor field defined by

$$\phi(\xi) = 0, \phi(e_2) = e_4, \phi(e_3) = e_5, \phi(e_4) = -e_2, \phi(e_5) = -e_3.$$

Using the linearity of  $\phi$  and  $g$ , we have

$$\eta(\xi) = 1, \phi^2(Z) = -Z + \eta(Z)\xi, g(\phi Z, \phi U) = g(Z, U) - \eta(Z)\eta(U)$$

for any  $Z, U \in T(M)$ .

Moreover,  $h'\xi = 0, h'e_2 = e_2, h'e_3 = e_3, h'e_4 = -e_4, h'e_5 = -e_5$ .

The Levi-Civita connection  $\nabla$  of the metric tensor  $g$  is given by Koszul's formula which is given by

$$\begin{aligned} 2g(\nabla_X Y, Z) &= Xg(Y, Z) + Yg(Z, X) - Zg(X, Y) \\ &\quad - g(X, [Y, Z]) - g(Y, [X, Z]) + g(Z, [X, Y]). \end{aligned}$$

Using Koszul's formula we get the following:

$$\nabla_\xi \xi = 0, \nabla_\xi e_2 = 0, \nabla_\xi e_3 = 0, \nabla_\xi e_4 = 0, \nabla_\xi e_5 = \xi,$$

$$\nabla_{e_2} \xi = 2e_2, \nabla_{e_2} e_2 = -2\xi, \nabla_{e_2} e_3 = 0, \nabla_{e_2} e_4 = 0, \nabla_{e_2} e_5 = 0,$$

$$\nabla_{e_3} \xi = 2e_3, \nabla_{e_3} e_2 = 0, \nabla_{e_3} e_3 = -2\xi, \nabla_{e_3} e_4 = 0, \nabla_{e_3} e_5 = 0,$$

$$\nabla_{e_4} \xi = 0, \nabla_{e_4} e_2 = 0, \nabla_{e_4} e_3 = 0, \nabla_{e_4} e_4 = 0, \nabla_{e_4} e_5 = 0,$$

$$\nabla_{e_5} \xi = 0, \nabla_{e_5} e_2 = 0, \nabla_{e_5} e_3 = 0, \nabla_{e_5} e_4 = 0, \nabla_{e_5} e_5 = 0.$$

In view of the above relations we have

$$\nabla_X \xi = -\phi^2 X + h'X$$

for any  $X \in T(M)$ . Therefore, the structure  $(\phi, \xi, \eta, g)$  is an almost contact metric structure such that  $d\eta = 0$  and  $d\Phi = 2\eta \wedge \Phi$ , so that  $M$  is an almost Kenmotsu manifold.

By the above results, we can easily obtain the components of the curvature tensor  $R$  as follows:

$$R(\xi, e_2)\xi = 4e_2, \quad R(\xi, e_2)e_2 = -4\xi, \quad R(\xi, e_3)\xi = 4e_3, \quad R(\xi, e_3)e_3 = -4\xi,$$

$$R(\xi, e_4)\xi = R(\xi, e_4)e_4 = R(\xi, e_5)\xi = R(\xi, e_5)e_5 = 0,$$

$$R(e_2, e_3)e_2 = 4e_3, \quad R(e_2, e_3)e_3 = -4e_2, \quad R(e_2, e_4)e_2 = R(e_2, e_4)e_4 = 0,$$

$$R(e_2, e_5)e_2 = R(e_2, e_5)e_5 = R(e_3, e_4)e_3 = R(e_3, e_4)e_4 = 0,$$

$$R(e_3, e_5)e_3 = R(e_3, e_5)e_5 = R(e_4, e_5)e_4 = R(e_4, e_5)e_5 = 0.$$

With the help of the expressions of the curvature tensor we conclude that the characteristic vector field  $\xi$  belongs to the  $(k, \mu)$ '-nullity distribution with  $k = -2$  and  $\mu = -2$ . Therefore, from  $\alpha^2 = -(k + 1)$ , we get  $\alpha = \pm 1$ . Without loss of generality we consider  $\alpha = -1$ . Then by the same argument as in Theorem 3.3 we can say that the manifold is locally isometric to  $\mathbb{H}^3(-4) \times \mathbb{R}^2$ .

Using the expressions of the curvature tensor  $R$  we have

$$R(X, Y)Z = -4[g(Y, Z)X - g(X, Z)Y].$$

From the above equation we obtain

$$S(Y, Z) = -16g(Y, Z), \quad \text{which implies } r = -80.$$

Now, it is easy to see that

$$(\mathcal{L}_\xi g)(\xi, \xi) = (\mathcal{L}_\xi g)(e_4, e_4) = (\mathcal{L}_\xi g)(e_5, e_5) = 0,$$

$$(\mathcal{L}_\xi g)(e_2, e_2) = (\mathcal{L}_\xi g)(e_3, e_3) = 4.$$

Consider  $V = \xi$  and then tracing (1.1) we obtain  $\lambda = \frac{r}{2} + \frac{1}{5} + \frac{76}{5}$ . Hence,  $(g, \xi, \lambda)$  is a conformal Ricci soliton on  $M$ . Thus Theorem 3.3 is verified.

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